



STATE OF INDIANA

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Completing the Census is the Duty of Each Citizen

INDIANAPOLIS (April 1, 2010) – On Census Day, an American military hero appealed to the patriotic duty of all Americans to complete and mail their census forms.

“The United States Constitution directs the federal government to count every person in the country once every ten years,” said Staff Sgt. Jeffrey A. McClure, who was awarded a purple heart medal while deployed to Iraq. “It’s the duty of every household to fill out the form and send it in.”

“Hoosiers have always gone above and beyond to support our nation’s call,” said Gen. R. Martin Umbarger, adjutant general of the Indiana National Guard. “It is our part as citizens to complete our census forms to ensure Indiana receives its fair share of resources in order to answer this call.”

In 2008, Marion County received more than \$1.3 million for veterans’ benefits and services. This funding is directly related to the Census count. In total, during that year, Indianapolis and Marion County received nearly \$1.9 billion in grants, direct payments and loans from the federal government based on Census data.

“Indiana's current participation rate, at 57 percent, is ninth highest in the country. At 51 percent, Indianapolis' response rate is better than most large cities, but those who haven't sent in their form must do so today so that we can finish the job,” said Mark W. Everson, commissioner of the Indiana Department of Administration and the official who is directing outreach efforts for the State of Indiana. “The 2010 Census will have a real impact on counties, cities and towns across Indiana for the next 10 years.”